SARON MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook:www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Saron's Mission: *Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!!*

Reverend James E. Smith, Pastor
Cell: 269-816-3870
Email: pastorjames@saronlutheran.org

Amanda Bradley, Admin Assistant
Cell: 419-306-5780
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bradley717@gmail.com

Marcus Roll, Music Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com

Irma Gorman, Organist
Email: pianoladyijg@yahoo.com

Ken Boyd, Bookkeeper
Email: financial@saronlutheran.org

Sara Porter, Childcare Specialist
Email: portersara20@gmail.com

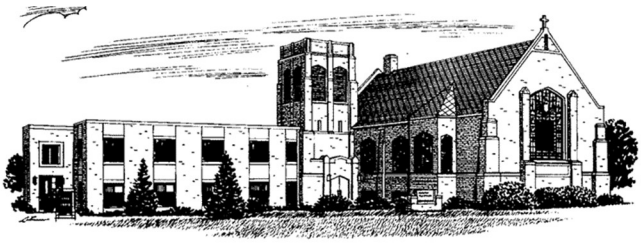
Typical Sunday at Saron:

Summer Schedule (**began May 25, 2025**):
10am Worship
On-Location and via Zoom
Nursery Available
No Learning Hour

Fall, Winter and Spring **(begins Sept 7, 2025):**
8:30am Worship On-Location
9:40am Learning Hour for Ages 3-Adult
11am Worship with Zoom Option
Nursery Available

We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia



1700 Years Old and Still Looking Good!

Maybe you've heard the phrase, "It does not make one *iota*'s difference!" *Iota*, sort of a decapitated "i," is the smallest Greek letter, so the point of the expression is "it doesn't matter much." But once an *iota* made a huge difference.

This summer marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea (325 CE). The then new Roman emperor Constantine wanted to make Christianity the official religion of the empire, but the problem was (surprise!) Christians disagreed with each other. The dispute at the time was whether Christ is eternally God in the same way that God the Father is. Most said yes; a man named Arius said no. A simple way to remember Arius's teaching is "There was a time when Christ was not."

As they were hashing out what would become the Nicene Creed, the debate centered on one small letter, the *iota*. The question was: is Christ *homoousia* (the **same** substance as God) or *homoiousia* (a **similar** substance to God: think Coke and Diet Coke). The council, relying on passages such as John 1, Philippians 2, and others, dropped Arius's *iota*. So to this day, we say *"of one being with the Father."* The **same**.

Now you might ask: At the end of the day, does it make, well, one *iota*'s difference?

Yes. Among the most important things we believe is that God, God's self, chose to join humanity, to take on flesh, to become one of us and one with us. Think of the amazing fact that in Jesus, *God* was in a womb, was in a manger, was a child, ate and drank, did human jobs, made and spent time with friends, but not only that: God knew human sadness and grief, faced our hardships and temptations, suffered, and died. Well, the Nicene Creed says that God did not send or make someone else kind of "God-ish" to do the job. No. God joined us in everything that we humans do. In a manger in Bethlehem, God came to us. And Jesus rose from the dead, so that we can come to God.

So it turns out your grade school English teacher was right: Check your work because one letter really can make a difference. I am grateful for a Creed that shows us just how much and *how* God loves us. Here's to another 1700 years…and beyond!

- Pastor James

General Information

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor James E. Smith
Monday – Thursday
Hours may vary. Appointments are great!
Amanda Bradley (Admin Assistant):
Mondays & Thursdays 10am-2pm
Ken Boyd (Bookkeeper):
Thursday Mornings and by Appointment
Helping Hands Office Volunteers:
Wednesdays 9:00am-11am (approx)

If you or your loved one is need of a visit or pastoral care, please contact Pastor James at 269-816-3870.

Specific questions or concerns may be directed to an appropriate council member or committee liaison:
President – Fran Bolson
Vice President – Erik Bergh
Secretary – Claudia Staude
Treasurer – Ed Brunner
Worship – Marilyn Frey
Learning – Fran Bolson or Scott Gaspari
Outreach – Jim Manore
Facilities – Steve Cook or Ed Brunner
Youth – Chuck Knebl
Support – Jim Manore or Ed Brunner
Hospitality – Merrily Smith or Claudia Staude

Caring and Sharing

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members!

6/2 Ann Dosch
6/4 June Embree
6/5 Judi Huff
6/5 Susan Mauney
6/6 Danielle Hohman
6/6 Dale Lucy
6/7 Elinor Van Egmond
6/11 Tyler Cook
6/12 Charles Kohs
6/12 Stephania Ngonyani
6/12 Deborah Vollmer
6/15 Hunter Zwar
6/16 Marilyn Frey
6/18 James Peterson
6/18 Rebeccah Strine
6/20 Cami Vitek
6/22 Larry Weber
6/27 Carol Hafer
6/29 David Young

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members!

6/1 Brian & Coanne Hohman
6/2 Deanna & Robert Deaton
6/12 Lindsay & Scott Gaspari
6/16 Kathie & Dave Bradley
6/17 Kathy & Gary Cowall
6/17 Joan & James Oleson
6/21 Dan & Sue Fortenbacher
6/25 Richard & Dawn Osgood
6/27 Claire & Kyle Carter
6/28 Gayle & James Peterson
6/30 Don & Carol Hafer
6/30 Janet & William Oleson

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round!"

If there are any omissions from the birthday or anniversary list, or if a date is incorrect, please let us know so we can get it correct in the future!

We are planning to receive new members on Pentecost, June 8! Please help us celebrate what the Spirit is doing here and among us! There will be cake.

Are you interested in becoming a member of Saron or learning more about faith from the Lutheran perspective? If so, contact Pastor James at 269/816-3870 so you can have the discussion and be included! All are welcome here.

FORTIFY & fly

The new signage is up! Adding this lettering and a cross with the ELCA logo has updated our building and will bring much needed attention to the doors that we now use as the front entrance, especially for those new to the area or for guests at weddings/funerals.

Worship

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES

Our sound system in the sanctuary came with headphones to assist those having difficulty hearing the worship service. If you are interested, ask Marcus if you can try one out.

SENSORY BAGS

As part of extending an unconditional welcome to all, we have Sensory Bags available for use. These bags contain a variety of fidgets that can help someone feel more able to sit quietly and/or focus. We also have noise canceling headphones for those who are sound sensitive. These brightly colored bags can be found in the narthex.

PRAYER GROUP

You are invited to offer your concerns or thanksgivings via our attendance cards each Sunday. Requests can also be made online via a link in our Thursday email. You may include as much, or little, detail as you wish. Requests are then given to the Monday prayer group. **You are invited to be part of this Monday group at noon.** We follow a simple format of morning prayer and insert the petitions and prayers for Saron's ministry and the world. Most weeks we are done in 30 minutes.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sponsor a week by using the link in the weekly email or by contacting the church office. Please note any occasion/thanksgiving to be recognized in the bulletin. **Flowers are now $40 per vase.** Checks are payable to Saron with "Flowers" as the memo. Take them home to enjoy then please **return the vase.**

Nursery

Nursery service is available during worship. In order to utilize the space most effectively, this option is primarily directed towards our youngest members and guests. For preschoolers that need more physical and/or emotional space, activities are available in the narthex, including clipboards with coloring pages and children's bulletins. **It's vital to embrace family units in all stages and as such, we gladly welcome wiggles and giggles in worship!**

The goal of the nursery is to provide a safe environment to facilitate a meaningful worship experience for families. We recognize that may not look the same for all and encourage sharing concerns and suggestions with Marilyn Lucy (269/759-3464). We can also use more volunteers!

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

June 1: 7th Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17:20-26

June 8: Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21
Genesis 11:1-9 {alternate}
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17
Acts 2:1-21 {alternate}
John 14:8-17 [25-27]

June 15: Holy Trinity
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31
Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

June 22: 2nd Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 65:1-9
Psalm 22:19-28
Galatians 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 29: 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
Psalm 16 (8)
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
Luke 9:51-62

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group (middle school & high school age) typically meets once per month after the service for food, fun and fellowship.

Contact Scott at scottgaspari@outlook.com with any questions or to be added to the email list.

Learning

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

We have many educational options to fit your needs and schedule. Always feel welcome to join us, at any time and for as many sessions as works for you.

SUNDAY LEARNING HOUR

We will meet again, beginning September 7 with opportunities for many ages and stages!

The Sunday Learning Hour (9:40am-10:30am) offers the following options:

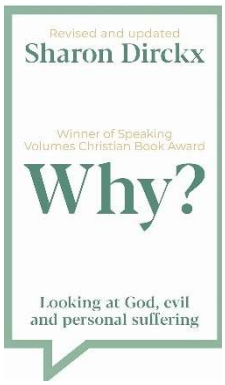
- Preschool - Grade 5: Sunday School
- Grades 6-8: Confirmation Classes
- High School - Adult: Adult Forum

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Are you looking to get more out of the Bible? Are you hankering for a sneak peek at Sunday's readings? Are you wondering what it could possibly mean to *inwardly digest* the Scriptures? Of course you are! Wednesday morning Bible study is here for you! Throughout the summer, we'll be meeting outside (weather-permitting) on Wednesday morning at 9:30am, beginning June 4. We'll be using the "African" or "Lambeth" Bible study method of prayerfully reading through, meditating and discussing the Sunday readings with an emphasis on how each reading personally affects us in our lives of faith. Questions? Ask Pr. James, or simply swing on by and join us!

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

We will continue studying the book *Why? Looking at God, evil and personal suffering* by Sharon Dirckx (2021) throughout our June sessions then start a new study in July.


Revised and updated
Sharon Dirckx
Winner of Speaking Volumes Christian Book Award
Why?
Looking at God, evil and personal suffering

We meet Tuesday evenings at 6pm in the upstairs lounge for one hour, then adjourn to a local restaurant for food and fellowship. **All are welcome!**

If you have any questions, feel free to call, text, or email:
Don Hafer (269/985-3637, haferdon@gmail.com)
Ed Staude (636/288-1016, staude.edmund@gmail.com)
Eric Standen (269/759-3556, dande-standen@sbcglobal.net)

BOOK CLUB

We are taking a break until August. Here are the book titles we've selected for continued good reading and discussion in 2025-2026. Hope you will join us if any of these books catch your interest. We meet at 6:30pm in the upstairs lounge. All are welcome and a good time guaranteed!

- Aug 3: Solito: A Memoir by Javier Zamora
- Sep 7: James: A Novel by Percival Everett
- Oct 5: The Darwin Conspiracy by John Darnton
- Nov 2: Old Habits by Albert Smith
- Dec 7: The Waiting: The True Story of a Lost Child by Cathy LaGrow
- Feb 1: Infectious Generosity; The Ultimate Idea Worth Spreading by Chris Anderson
- Mar 1: Who Moved the Stone by Frank Morison
- Apr 12: Frozen River by Ariel Lawhorn
- May 3: The Collected Regrets of Clover by Mikki Brammer

Questions? Call Kathy Cowall (269)428-0354 or kcowall@hotmail.com.

You can borrow a book, but you get to keep the ideas.
-Good Reads

FORUM & fellowship

This group will break for the summer and meet again during the program year. Watch future newsletters for a schedule of topics. Let Ed know if you have any ideas of what we should cover!

Contact Ed Staude at 636/288-1016 with any questions.

Women of the ELCA

DEBORAH CIRCLE

We will meet at 7pm on Wednesday, June 11 in the upstairs lounge. Denise will provide Zoom. That link will be emailed close to the meeting date.

The study lesson will be from the January/February 2025 issue of Gather magazine titled (session two) Faithfulness: faith in the depths: Psalm 22, p. 28-32. Kathy Cowall will lead the study.

Contact Melanie at 269/449-8399 with any questions.

Hospitality

SUNDAY SNACKS

Who doesn't love a snack during a time of fellowship in the narthex? If you would like to be a Sunday snack host, sign up via the link in our weekly email or call/email the office so Amanda can sign you up. Please plan for at least 30 to partake. Thank you!

Outreach

The Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen™ Heart-to-Heart™

Simple food, honestly sourced and lovingly made creates connections, gives fuel to the fight, and starves ignorance and apathy.
-Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

On April 24, Kathie Bradley, Lindsay & Elizabeth Gaspari and Lindsay's students from Brookview Montessori School met at Saron to assemble sack lunches for the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. The lunches included a sandwich, chips, fruit, a pickle and cookies baked by Kathi Anserello and other Saron bakers. The Soup Kitchen has purchased and moved to the former Lark's BBQ on Main Street in Benton Harbor which is being renovated. During the renovation, Saron will be assembling sack lunches at the Red Lotus on Vineland in St. Joseph and delivering them to the Soup Kitchen to be distributed to the guests. If you are able to help with assembling the lunches or to provide cookies, please use the link in the weekly email or contact Kathie Bradley at 269-921-4665.

Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry with your time, contributions, and prayers.
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!

NOISY OFFERING

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

We receive a noisy offering
(or those not-so-noisy bills)
on the first Sunday of each month.
These gifts are sent to
ELCA World Hunger.

Thank you for your continued support!

SYNOD CONTRIBUTIONS

Where does the money we give to the synod go?
Our Northwest/Lower Michigan ("Mitten") Synod is a 50% synod: that means half of the money parishes send is sent on to the wider church and other ministries. For June's article, we will focus on summertime which means CAMP! Maybe you had the experience of attending a camp ministry when you were younger or serving as a counsellor. In our synod, the camp we support is Living Water Ministries in New Era, Mich.

At Synod Assembly, we had the opportunity to hear a report from Living Water Ministries' new executive director Nicole McCarthy. McCarthy said:

> The mission, "Bringing together all of God's children to experience Christian Community, grow in faith, develop leadership skills and serve others" was made real by the campers, staff, and adult leaders who attended our summer programs or the Charge event. This mission was made real by the 987 total people who engaged in LWM programs and events in 2024. We welcomed 483 campers and adult leaders, 10 volunteers and 23 summer staff to Stony Lake! Then in the fall we welcomed 306 participants and 12 staff to Charge at the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City!

Thank you, Saron! Your mission support through Saron and through the Mitten Synod makes this ministry possible! *For more on Living Water Ministries, please visit their webpage at* www.elcalivingwater.com.

Interfaith Action

Interfaith Action (swmichiganinterfaith.org) is a coalition of over 40 faith communities in Allegan, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties. Some members of Saron attend meetings and work with various task force groups. One of the goals of Interfaith Action is to promote understanding and respect for diversity.

The first step in getting involved, is getting informed. Register to receive their communications at https://swmichinterfaith.org/contact1

EYE GLASS COLLECTION

Lions RECYCLE For Sight

Do you have old glasses sitting in a drawer? Lions Club has provided a collection box in the narthex. We have several members who are Lions that can deliver our glasses to the club where they will do more good. Thank you!

INCLUSIVITY TASK FORCE

The Inclusivity Task Force is committed to extending a welcome to all. Our congregation adopted the following welcome statement and is a **Reconciling in Christ** church.

As a community of faith who *joyfully shares God's love for all*, we believe our lives and faith are strengthened by diversity. We strive to be a community who welcomes people of every ability, age, citizenship status, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, language, marital status, political perspective, race, and sexual orientation. We are committed to the work of racial equity. Whatever life's circumstance, we openly welcome and value you. We celebrate God's unconditional love and respond joyfully to your presence here. All are welcome. You are welcome.

If you ever have any questions on our inclusivity journey, please feel free to call any one of the task force members:

Lindsay Gaspari: 847/373-8826 | lindsay.gaspari@yahoo.com
Meredith Gacek: 269/235-4530 | meredithgacek@yahoo.com

Support

The Support Committee typically meets the Tuesday before the third Monday of the month at 8pm via Zoom. Contact Don Hafer with any questions at 269/985-3637.

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with a brokerage firm to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, email Ed Brunner at ebrunner54@gmail.com to receive more information. Thanks!

Facilities

HELPING HANDS (Previously Golden Hammers)

We do all sorts of things from building maintenance to preps for worship in the sanctuary to assembling bulletins and newsletters and so much more. We meet on Wednesdays around 9am and know you are invited – whatever your age, gender, or ability. There is a job for you to use your helping hands.

Miscellaneous Bits of News

2025 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

The Mitten Synod has a new bishop! Julie Schneider-Thomas of Kent City was elected on May 20 during the North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly, held May 18-20 in Mount Pleasant. She is pastor at Zion Lutheran in Comstock Park and Hope Lutheran in Rockford. Schneider-Thomas is the synod's first female bishop and the first bishop elected directly from a parish setting. She received her Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and was ordained in 1996. Her six-year term begins Sept. 1, when she officially succeeds Bishop Craig Satterlee.

One highlight was Monday evening when the assembly recognized congregations and pastors marking anniversaries, including Saron's 150th anniversary.

The synod also memorialized a resolution to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly to continue to address the ELCA's legacy and role in Indian Boarding Schools.

For more information about Schneider-Thomas and the assembly, visit mittensynod.org/events/assembly.

Among the 254 voting members at the assembly were Pastor James and Marilyn & Brad Frey.

Free gun locks were available at synod assembly. Brad Frey brought back a few; see him if you or someone you know needs one.

2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Saron Lutheran Church Presents:

Grace Notes:
God is with you through the highs and lows!
Saron VBS
Pre-School - 5th Grade
6pm-8pm
Sunday, July 27- Wednesday, July 30

This unique vacation bible school opportunity will explore different aspects of music through Bible lessons, crafts, activities and more! Watch for registration info this month!

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to **Frederico Augusto Herrmann** on affirming his baptism through Confirmation on May 11, 2025. Saron has been blessed to watch you grow in faith and to now have you as an adult, voting member of the congregation!

Saron Lutheran Church

1875 | 150th Anniversary | 2025

Generations of Serving & Sharing God's Love

Make new memories while we commemorate our past! Plan to attend as many events as possible and please let the lead of each subcommittee know if you'd like to help with the planning and implementation.

June 20: South Bend Cubs Game

Lead: Kristen Harper

Let Amanda know ASAP if you did not reserve tickets but would still like to go. We *might* be able to help.

July 13: Group Photo

Lead: Scott Gaspari

New Church Photo Directory

Lead: Kathie Bradley

If you couldn't make any of the professional photo days, we will be in touch to take your photo after a service or at your home.

History Research, Documenting & Presenting

Lead: Kate Ulrey

There are new posters with historical information appearing in the narthex throughout the year. We will also be putting as much of Saron's history as we can fit in the new directory.

Lead: Marilyn Lucy

The subcommittee working on the Prayer & Meditation Garden has met several times over the past few months and has recently received council approval to move forward with the construction of a prayer nook, which is a semi-enclosed bench that will block out some of the road noise and provide a peaceful place to sit for prayer, reflection or have a sandwich. Once the cement pad has been poured, Dale Lucy is planning to build a kit of sorts that we will then have a service day to assemble on-site. We will also be putting in some additional low-maintenance plantings to connect this new area to the existing courtyard beds. The plan for this summer also includes installing an outdoor prayer station. This fall, we'd like to relocate the Japanese maple to a new spot in the ground (the current above ground planter is rotting). A picnic table and secured trash reciptical are on the wish list, along with signage to encourage the community to enjoy the space and reinforce our welcome to all.

The extent of our work on the Community Prayer & Meditation Garden is directly tied to the funds we collect. If you would like to contribute, make sure your donation is marked "Prayer Garden."

Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade

Saron committed to outreach in two ways this year at the annual Blossomtime Parade! We offered our green space to community groups such as Twin City Players, Area Agency on Aging, and the Lions Club so they could set up tents and spread awareness. Thank you to Ed Staude for organizing that opportunity. We also opened our doors and served 212+ people a hot dog lunch. While this event is free to the public, we did collect $288 in free-will offerings towards our 150th Anniversary Fund. Thank you to Judi Huff, Kati Hooper (and Elliot!), and Sally Schmuhl for making that happen. It was great to see so many smiling Saron faces on a bright, sunny afternoon!

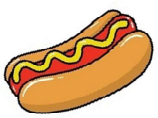
2025

We were blessed to celebrate two graduates during the service on May 25. Meredith Gacek (Purdue University Global) and Mia Bradley (Lakeshore High School). I'm sure there was a dry eye out there somewhere but maybe not. We are certainly proud of these impressive Saron young women!

Picnic & Worship at Lions Park Beach

Wednesday, July 9 at 6pm

Hot Dogs & Brats will be provided. Bring a dish to share.



Summertime Thoughts on Stewardship

What a difference a year makes! Last June, the stewardship article found us feeling a bit melancholy as Pastor Joan had announced her retirement and Saron was facing a *"period of unease and perhaps even unrest."* But we were also optimistic then and noted that Saron *"will survive . . . and will continue* **Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!***"*

And survive we did! The mission and ministry of Saron continued without a hitch, and now Saron has been gifted with an energetic young pastor who will help shape the fortunes of Saron for generations to come. Welcome, Pastor James! All is well again.

Despite not having a full-time pastor, the Fall 2024 Stewardship Season was a success in terms of both fostering our understanding of the role stewardship plays in living a Christian life and – while not the most important aspect of stewardship, but nonetheless quite significant – securing generous pledges from the congregation that allow the ministry of Saron to continue. It was so gratifying to see so many of Saron's members and friends actively involved in last year's activities!

Generations of Generosity

As you are well aware, this year Saron is celebrating its 150th anniversary, with an overall theme of *Generations of Serving & Sharing God's Love*. It's humbling to think that with all the changes that have occurred in the world since 1875, Saron has thrived throughout the years to become the loving, accepting, and generous haven that it is today. But then, maybe that's not so surprising when you remember that a 2000-year-old message from a carpenter's son is still shaping our lives and the world we live in today. That is truly humbling.

Building on both the 150th anniversary theme and the emphasis of the two previous stewardship seasons, *i.e.*, gratitude and generosity, the theme for the Fall 2025 Stewardship Season is *Generations of Generosity*. Gratitude and generosity go hand-in-hand. Gratitude is appreciating life's gifts; it turns *"what we have"* into *"enough."* Generosity is sharing life's gifts; it is *"the willingness to give help or support, especially more than is usual or expected,"* and that is a trait routinely exhibited by the people of Saron, both today and over the many generations that have worshiped at Saron since 1875.

Let's keep that trend going by first enjoying the remainder of this year's anniversary activities – culminating in a festive banquet on August 10th – and then be ready to again explore the joy of Christian stewardship throughout the fall. We are very excited to embark on this year's effort with Pastor James on board!

"One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."
(Psalm 145:4)

* * * * * * *

The committee continues working on the stewardship focus for Fall 2025, *Generations of Generosity*. If anyone has thoughts or suggestions, we would love to hear from you!

Don Hafer, for the Stewardship Committee (hafer.don@gmail.com)

Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe.

JUNE 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	**2**	**3**	**4** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 **NEW MEMBERS** 10m Worship with Zoom Option	**9** Noon Prayer Group	**10** 6pm Bible Study 8pm Support Meeting	**11** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 10m Worship with Zoom Option	**16** Noon Prayer Group 7pm Council Meeting	**17** 6pm Bible Study	**18** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**19**	**20** **South Bend Cubs Baseball Game 7pm**	**21**
22 10m Worship with Zoom Option	**23** Noon Prayer Group	**24** 6pm Bible Study	**25** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**26** **SOUP KITCHEN**	**27**	**28**
29 10m Worship with Zoom Option	**30** Noon Prayer Group					

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025

You are invited to celebrate this impressive milestone in Saron's long history with worship, food & fellowship!

Saron Lutheran Church
1875 | 150th Anniversary | 2025

Bishop Craig Satterlee will preach at **10am** then we will head over to the beautiful **Union & Social at 11:30am** for more music and a buffet lunch. Tickets for the meal are **$30 per adult and $15 per child (4-12).** Children under 4 are free. Cost is not meant to be a barrier to attendance. If you would like to come and need assistance, simply let Pastor James or Amanda know and it will be covered further by Saron. Along the same note, if you would like to help Saron pay for this event while minimizing impact to our budget, you are welcome to add a donation to your check. Any funds collected will be used for 150th Anniversary related expenses and projects. **Watch your email for the link to reserve seats!** There will also be opportunities to ask for help after services in June.